

A. King

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

: Group Art Unit: 2143

Examiner: April L. Baugh

IBM Corporation

Intellectual Property Law

Title: METHOD & STRUCTURE FOR : Department IQ0A/040-3

EFFICIENTLY RETRIEVING STATUS FOR : 1701 North Street SCSI ACCESSED FAULT-TOLERANT : Endicott, NY 13760

**ENCLOSURE** 

**Assistant Commissioner For Patents** 

Washington, DC 20231

Serial No.: 09/539,459

Filed: 03/30/2000

Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA

22313-1450 on 11.5.03

Georgia A. Brundege

**RESPONSE** 

NOV 1 0 2003

11-3-69

Date

Technology Center 2100

This is in response to the office action dated 10/02/2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS:

54.(currently amended) A method for communicating to a host system a change in numerically variable characteristic status of a subsystem coupled to said host system, said method comprising the steps of:

said subsystem receiving a request from by said host system to monitor said numerically variable characteristic a status of said subsystem and report to said host system a value of said characteristic or an amount of change of in said characteristic status when a minimum numerical amount of said change occurs, but not report a change when no change occurs or less than said minimum numerical amount of change occurs, said request specifying said minimum numerical amount of said change; and

MLX9-2000-0006US1

09/539,459

1

Arthur J. Samodovitz Reg. No: 31,297 IBM Corporation Dept. IQ0A/Bldg. 40-3

1701 North Street Endicott, NY 13760

certify that this document and fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as on 11-5-03 first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 313-1450.

Signature of Person Mailing Corresponder

ĞEORĞIA Y. BRUNDEGE

Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence